

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A magnetic tape cartridge comprising:

a cartridge case with a tape leader opening in a side wall;

a single tape reel having magnetic tape wound thereon rotatably housed within said cartridge case; and

a tape leader pin, firmly attached to a leading end of said magnetic tape, and detachably held near said tape leader opening by a spring member;

wherein a surface hardness of a sliding surface of said spring member with respect to said tape leader pin is higher than that of said tape leader pin;

wherein said tape leader pin and said spring member are both formed of a same type of material, where the type of material is a metal.

2. (currently amended) ~~The magnetic tape cartridge as set forth in claim 1,~~

A magnetic tape cartridge comprising:

a cartridge case with a tape leader opening in a side wall;

a single tape reel having magnetic tape wound thereon rotatably housed within said cartridge case; and

a tape leader pin, firmly attached to a leading end of said magnetic tape, and detachably held near said tape leader opening by a spring member;

wherein a surface hardness of a sliding surface of said spring member with respect to said tape leader pin is higher than that of said tape leader pin,

wherein said spring member is formed from stainless steel and said sliding surface of said spring member is plated with chromium or nickel.

3. (original) The magnetic tape cartridge as set forth in claim 2, wherein said sliding surface has a surface hardness Hv of 500 to 700.

4. (original) The magnetic tape cartridge as set forth in claim 2, wherein said tape leader pin is formed from relatively soft metal material.

5. (original) The magnetic tape cartridge as set forth in claim 4, wherein said relatively soft metal material is aluminum.

6. (original) The magnetic tape cartridge as set forth in claim 2, wherein said tape leader pin is formed from synthetic resin.

7. (original) The magnetic tape cartridge as set forth in claim 6, wherein said synthetic resin comprises polycarbonate resin.

8. (withdrawn) A magnetic tape cartridge comprising:
a cartridge case with a tape leader opening in a side wall;
a single tape reel having magnetic tape wound thereon rotatably housed within said cartridge case; and
a tape leader pin, firmly attached to a leading end of said magnetic tape, and detachably held near said tape leader opening by a spring member;
wherein at least either a sliding surface of said spring member or a sliding surface of said tape leader pin is subjected to a surface roughening process.

9. (withdrawn) The magnetic tape cartridge as set forth in claim 8, wherein the sliding surface subjected to said surface roughening process has a surface roughness of 0.5 to 3.0 μm in terms of 10-point mean roughness.

10. (withdrawn) A magnetic tape cartridge comprising:
a cartridge case with a tape leader opening in a side wall;
a single tape reel having magnetic tape wound thereon rotatably housed within said cartridge case; and
a tape leader pin, firmly attached to a leading end of said magnetic tape, and detachably held near said tape leader opening by a spring member comprising a plate spring;

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wherein at least a sliding surface of said plate spring with respect to said tape leader pin is subjected to a surface striking process.

11. (new) The magnetic tape cartridge as set forth in claim 5, wherein said tape leader pin has a surface hardness H_v of 50 to 200.